THE NEWS OF THE STORES.

AN EXCELLENT TIME FOR BEST CHOICE IN SPRING HATS AND WRAPS.

DINNER SETS. CHINA WARE FOR DECORATING, AND RARE DELFT AND LIMOGES GOODS SELLING AT HALF-PRICE.

Representative of the fashions of the hour are the many beautiful hats and gowns now displayed in the New-York and Brooklyn shops. And while of the dainty creations cannot possibly be ofore two or three months, an examination of them is a real pleasure. O'Neill & Co. are showinating spring wraps, while A. D. Matthews & Sons, of Brooklyn, are making a bid for im-Sons, of Brooklyn, are making a bid for imdiate favor by an exceptional display of tailorde gowns. Wanamaker has many spring hats
view. Higgins & Selter are dedicating their new
fe by a "sale" of beautiful china and glass ware
low prices. Garnitures for gowns are the "pièce
resistance" at Stern Bros. while Vantine & Co.
i delighting their customers with a sale of Japise plates of all sizes and styles. The Siegelpoper Company has on exhibition a number of
dei gowns and hats for early spring and summer
at.

WANAMAKER'S, BROADWAY AND TENTH-ST.

Any one in search of a hat for early spring, or, for matter, for any occasion, cannot do better than to pay a visit to Wanamaker's. The dainty creations there displayed cannot fail to excite the admiration of the most critical. The hat to the left Wanamaker sketch is made of rough green straw and is trimmed with separate bunches of violets that encircle its entire crown. The stems ers that encircle its entire crown. The stems upon the brim. Two large choux of green velresting upon the hair raise the hat at the back, ag it slightly over the forehead. The immense ch of American Beauty roses and follage that rathe left side of this dressy sailor hat adds such of brightness and at the same time gives necessary height to the trimming, he quaint "poke" shown on the other figure is a made of green straw. It is faced with a shirt of soft white meline and is trimmed with a

FASHION Delf blue ware. The decorations are taken from celebrated paintings, and the assortment contains pin trays at 20 cents each; teapot tiles, 55 cents each; cake plates, 55 cents; fancy trays, \$1 05 each; bon-bon boxes, from 25 cents to \$9 cents, according to the size; creamers from 25 cents to 75 cents; salad bowls, \$1 05; six-lineh candlesticks, 55 cents; chocolate jugs, for \$2 20. These reduced prices do not characterize the cheaper goods.

Another style of dinner set, with brims of green, yellow, blue or pink, and edged with gold, is now obtainable for \$1 85.

One entire store is given up to the display of

obtainable for \$1 S5.

One entire store is given up to the display of dainty crystalline novelties, for which this firm is so justly famed. The assortment of engraved, cut and Bolemian glassware is absolutely complete, and it is made still more attractive by the "dedication prices" marked on every piece. AT A. A. VANTINE & CO.'S, NOS. 877 AND 879

BROADWAY.

Now that table decoration has reached the dignity of a fine art, almost as much thought and care being bestowed on the dressing of the table as on the dinner itself, every careful housewife makes a mental note of the place where she can always be sure of finding the very daintiest and quaintest table ware. So, consequently, the name of Vantine & Co. is written largely on many and many mental tablet, for the exquisite china and odditie offered by this firm make one wonder over and ove: again how they can sell them at such prices, even though the occasion be a sale.

Reginning with Tuesday morning, nearly the en Regianing with Tuesday morning, hearly the ea-tire basement will be devoted to an exhibition of plates that number almost a million. The assort-ment includes tea, bread and butter, fruit, dinner, breakfast, cake and soup plates, all decorated in that immitable style that characterizes Oriental handiwork. Floral and figure subjects are used, besides blue and white studies, Satsuma and Tokio.



from these pompons and drooping over the brim to the wearer's hair is a long graceful bird-of-paradise TWENTIETH-ST.

A beautiful wrap, suitable for brighter and warmer days than we are having now, is one of the first requirements of a spring outfit, and an attractive show of very elegant mantles is now tinct tendency to continue the Watteau style, and many of the greatest noveltles of the season partake of this character. An example of this is shown in that distinctly Parisian wrap illustrated in this firm's sketch. It is fashioned of soft dove, gray coarse grenadine over gray slik, and the en tire garment does not weigh two pounds. The front and the back of the jacket are laid in wide green velvet. Starting from each shoulder are strings of cut-jet beads of graduated sizes; they are draped across the yoke and fastened directly are draped across the yoke and fastened directly in the front at the edge of the yoke, and then hang in loose strings down to the waist-line. A high collar and pointed epaulettes are made of the green velvet, almost covered with open work set passementerie. The collar is filled in with voluminous folds of weblike black lace, held up by a band and large bow of black moire ribbon. After encircling the throat the lace is arranged in a graceful jabot down the front of the garment.

From the front and the back of the epaulettes start two pieces of black moire ribbon, that after curving gacefully around the armhole meet each other at the sides on the hips where a smail bow with long ends forms their finish.

The quaint sieeves have long cuffs slashed at the front and back and filled in with black lace, and over this is arranged second cuffs of pleated black moire ribbon.

GOLDEN'S BRIDGE CHESS CLUB PARTY.

The Chess Club of Golden's Bridge, N. Y., gave a reception in honor of St. Valentine last Monday evening at the home of E. B. Brady. Eighty guests were present. The house was prettily decorated for the occasion with appropriate designs-hearts, keys and Cupid's bow. The Reception Com-mittee consisted of the Misses Cornelia Brady, Mabel F. Keyser, Millie Keyser, Hortense Brady and Charlotte Chase. The ushers were Monmouth Buckbee, Howard Teed, Preston Brown and Leon

During the evening Franklin Hart, of New-York, entertained the company with impersonations and songs, and Miss Vida Miller gave some plano solos. fter the collation and the distribution of daints and-painted favors, made by the ladies of the lub, loasts were drunk. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Nelsor and Miss Ella Merritt, Miss Lyon and Mr. Haight

AN UPRISING OF WOMEN.

AT H. O'NEILL & CO.'S, SIXTH-AVE. AND THEY CLAIM THEY ARE NOT PROPERLY CARED FOR IN THE GREATER NEW-YORK CHARTER.

> When it was first proposed that a charter should be framed for the great city which will be the metropolis of the Western World, it was earnestly hoped by the women of the new municipality that Letter opportunities would be given to them under



HATS SKETCHED AT WANAMAKER'S.

Commission met and offered hearings to those who desired to make suggestions, several pleas were put in on their behalf. Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake put in on their behaviors. Since the New-York City Woman Suffrage League, asked for an equalization of salaries between men and women employes, for an advance of salaries for police matrons, and that somewhere in the charter there should be an explanatory clause stating that wherever the masculine noun or pronoun was used it should be held to indicate

> as men, and it is no more than fair that they should enjoy an equality of privileges. Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi made a plea for the presence of women in official positions in all public institutions where women are placed, either as patients, paupers or criminals, and also asked for the attendance of women physicians in such institutions. Beyond a courteous hearing, however, and kindly letters, no notice whatever was taken of these requests.

women must pay taxes and submit to punishment

The charter has now gone to Albary, with no The charter has provement in the present con-provision for any improvement in the present con-dition of the women who form half the adult pop-ulation of the new city. The only hope of obtaining any relief lies now with the Legislature.

The matter appears to have created a general feeling of indignation among women of all classes.
"The police matrons," said Mrs. Blake, "of both New-York and Brooklyn are united in demanding that their salaries shall be advanced so that they will have the same pay as doormen, and that they shall have a right to a pension on retirement. As it is, they receive only \$720 a year in New-York, and \$800 in Brooklyn, while the doorman gets \$1,000 a year, with a pension on retirement.

The matrons are entitled to no pension, no matter how meritorious their services, while any fines that might be imposed on them for delinquency would go to swell the pension fund.

"The women school teachers of the city consider their present salaries to be most unjust. A man teacher gets \$1,600 for his first year, while a woman teacher gets \$400, and at the end of thirteen years of faithful service receives only \$720, the salary now paid to the "man on the broom," the humble

now paid the streets.

"A great many of the women are maintaining their own families, others are supporting nephews and nieces, aged parents or other dependent relatives, and they therefore fail to appreciate the argument that men should receive higher salaries on account of their greater responsibilities. As a rule the women teachers have as many individuals dependent upon them as the men. They also maintain that the man teacher's duties are no more arduous than those of the woman teacher, for they say it can be no harder for a man to control boys than for a woman to control girls. The feelings of the women regarding the charter found expression at the recent mass-meeting in ter found expression at the recent mass-meeting in the form of a control girls. A street dress is of plain, heavy English serge. It has a tush bodice, trimmed Norfolk style, with bias bands of the same material, piped with kid, and a short skirt finished at the bottom with similar bands. The fulness is held at the back with two nows of small cloth-covered buttons, a favorite device of Mme. Herrmann's.

The lounging robe is of crepon. It is cut after the Grecian style in front, and has a princess, Watteauand nieces, aged parents or other dependent rela-

it than they had heretofore enjoyed. When the Commission met and offered hearings to those who might be substituted and will make quite as dainty souvenirs?

' ATTIRE FOR MOURNERS.

SOME HELPFUL HINTS FOR WOMEN WHO ARE WEARING DEEP BLACK.

When Dame Fashion puts on her thinking cap and wrinkles her brow in the effort to devise new fancies and follies in which to garb womankind, persons of both sexes. As it is now, she urged, she usually succeeds in producing some gorgeous kaleldoscopic effects. But in her zeal to strip the rainbow of its tints for her fair devotees she shamefully neglects her old friends who have been forced into mourning. Indeed, there is a conspicu-ous dearth of everything chic for the woman in black, and if she would maintain her personality in dress she must rack her own brain and not expect assistance from either the shops or her dressmaker. They will put upon her head a monstrous mourning bonnet calculated to make her bald in a short time, and upon her back a gown sombre enough to increase her dejection a hundredfold. There will not be the least little glimmer of charm about it, not

a relieving feature of consolation. A young wife who has recently gone into mourning and met and overcome the depressing condition of widows' wardrobes is Mme. Adelaide Herrmann. She is one of those women who have a knack of originating, and she never rests long if she is dissatisfied. After her husband's death she invaded the shops and found only the ancient, stereotyped styles of mourning apparel. Being a woman who believes in the existence of American-made gowns possible to wear, she forthwith studied her own case, and as a result has a fashionable wardrobe

every stitch of which was taken in New-York. One gown which possesses distinctive qualities is quite elaborate enough to grace a dinner or reception. Its fabric is black mousseline de sole, and a skirt of accordion pleats has a tight-fitting bodice joined to it by a piping of crêpe two inches below the waist line. The neck is V-shape, back and front, just low enough to give freedom to the throat, and from it depends an accordion-pleated pelerine headed by an immease ruche of mousseline de seie which resembles ostrich feathers. An undersleeve, fitting tight to the elbow, is surmounted by a full, flowing pleated flounce, which reaches

It pays to buy at Vantine's.

New Japanese silks just in from Japan-twelve different grades.

in New-York, and Mrs. Cornelia K. Hood is doing the same in Brooklyn. Mrs. Mary L. Cragle, president of the Queens County Woman Sufrage Society, has already sent in petitions to the Legislature. Miss Elizabeth Burril Curtis, a daughter of George William Curtis and president of the Richmond County Woman Sufrage Association, is agitating in that district.

In order that the cause may be properly represented in Albany the services of Mrs. Martha R. Almy have been secured.

Mrs. Almy will be remembered as the woman who succeeded in getting the constitutional amendment providing for woman suffrage through the Legislature in 1895. Just in from Japan-twelve different grades. It will pay you to visit our silk department this week if you who succeeded in getting the constitutions the Legislature in 1855.

"We ought always to have a representative at Albany," said Mrs. Blake yesterday, "for otherwise there will always be a danger that bills vitally affecting our interests may become laws without the public obtaining any precise knowledge regarding their meaning and scope. The necessity of this constant vigilance is evident by the recent introduction of Mr. Forrester's cruel bill regarding married women teachers. If it should be passed it will reduce to beggary many respectable families where there are invalid husbands, young children, and the full burden of support resting on the wives. The bill providing for the registration of common-law marriages also seriously menaces the interests of women."

Mrs. Almy will be in Albany early this week, and Mrs. Blake will join her there. Hearings will be asked for on the points mentioned above. Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake's address is No. 210 Central Park South. want black silks. First choice to first comers.

Also,

FAMCY

A GEORGE AND MARTHA DINNER.

SUGGESTIONS THAT MAY BE UTILIZED

FOR TO-MORROW'S CELEBRATION.

his estimable wife more than one hundred years

tion in vogue. There are many ideas that are strictly American in connection with this society

event, and conspicuous among them are the little schemes that form the details of dinner-giving.

A conspicuous entertainer in social New-York

is preparing a dinner for February 22. The banquet lamps have red, white and blue shades. The table-

cloth is to be festooned about the edge with red, white and blue ribbon strands, and also from the

entre of the table extend ribbons to each corner. The guest card at each plate for an occasion of this

kind may be in the form of a flag or a hatchet or a George Washington hat. The menu provided is a dainty card finely engraved with pictures of George and Martha. The souvenir is 9 small box

of tea containing two drawings and inscribed with he familiar joke of Sidney Smith: "Tu doces," which, translated, contains the appropriate mean-

cup and saucer also form an appropriate souvenir, or a silver hatchet on the blade of which is en-

graved the inscription, "I cannot tell a lie; I did it

The after-dinner dance is the minuet, the grace-

with my little hatchet."

"Thou tea-chest." Whether read as "Tu doces" or "Thou tea-chest," it is equally significant. A tea-

The George and Martha dinner party is the order of the hour at present. The Federal Court which was presided over by the National progenitor and

BLACK BROCADED JAP SILKS; 23 inch wide; yons dye, fast black.
BLACK CANTON CREPE; one of our specialties;

in 8 qualities. Justly tamous for great durability.

BLACK WATERPROOF SILK, in two grades; the only silk that won't spot by water. This line is a great

2,000 yds. LYONS PRINTED JAP SILK, in our own designs; only 45c. yd.

It pays to buy rugs at Vantine's.

It is not an ACCIDENT that our Oriental rug business is the largest in the world.

What then?

by 4 to 8 feet long, at

ago was a very brilliant one. Anything so brilliant and so formal has not existed since. It is thereand so formal has not existed since. It is therefore not strange that Americans have never wearled
of playing George and Marthaf. In this season of
patriotic fervor in honor of the birthday of the
Father of our Country all ideas that serve to
effectually celebrate the occasion are in demand.

The George and Martha dinner is the social function in varie. There are more ideas that It is because the goods are right and the prices are right-because we make it pay you to buy at Vantine's.

> .00 5.00 6.00 8.00 9. 10.00 11.00 12.00 15.00 EXTRA FINE ANTIQUE BOKHARA RUGS, in it, dull red coloring; lovely lustre,

> TURKISH AND PERSIAN RUGS, 3 to 4 feet wide

\$20.00 25.00 according to size.

ORIENTAL HALL STRIPS; a large and beautiful

\$15.00 18.00 20.00 24.00 and upward. 18.00

PRICE REDUCTIONS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

A. A. VANTINE & CO.



877-879 Brondway, New York.

THREE REASONS why our \$65 cos-tumes are \$35 for a time: One is our desire to have you try our perfectfitting garments; another, our moderate expenses; another, we do the cutting and fitting ourselves. An extended experience with the leading establishments of London and New York makes certain our ability to please you. SPRING STYLES AND MODELS ON EXHIBITION

Gordon & Whise III West 40th St., bet. Broadway and Sixth Ave.

pleated back. The full left side is caught up and pinned to the right side beneath the waist. The only garniture of this pretty negligic is a huge black Brussels net friil, edged with three bands of grosgrain ribbon a half-inch wide and gathered with ribbons and rosettes at the head. The fichu reaches below the waist. The sleeves are full, trimmed with a ruffle of the net, and can be adjusted to any length desired by means of a rubber band.

And now the hat! Those long-veiled, hair-pulling creations that make a martyr of a widow were a subject of earnest study with Adelaide Herrmann. She had invented a better fashion, and this is how it was done: In place of the heavy veil fastened securely to the small bonnet crown, she has devised an adjustable veil of light weight which may be slipped off whenever it proves inconvenient. Its top hem is run with a small silk elastic, and fits snugly around the hat, falling in simple foids over the shoulder. The bottom is tucked above the broad hem, and the back breadths hang lower than those of the side. The front of the bonnet has a small rim, and above it is a large Alsatian bow of thick, dull corded silk, a charming relief from the ordinary plain bonnets of mourning.

The wardrobe of Mme. Herrmann contains many other novel gowns, and every one possesses a style far more comfortable than those one sees upon widows generally.

EVERYTHING PLUM COLOR.

Dame Fashion has stamped plum color with her idseason favor. Plum color is just a few shades off from purple, a little more red in it perhaps, but as a tint it lends itself to harmony with the pink of a fair complexion in an admirable way. The girl who shops on Broadway in the morning and who can be relied on as one of fashion's deputies wears a plum-colored gown, a large plumcelered velvet hat with nodding plumes of plum color. The gown fits snugly, and a chinchilla fur collar sets off with marked effect the shade prevailing in her tollet. Under her arm she carries



SKETCHED AT STERN BROTHERS'S.

her canine pet, and he is clad in a plum-colored blanket that matches her gown. and orchids are produced to blend with this par-ticular shade, and if they are a trifle off nature's

ticular shade, and if they are a trifle off nature's chosen hue it is only a hint that nature may improve her tints of last season and thereby popularize herself.

Royal purple is also a midseason tint, not quite as new as plum color, but popular nevertheless. The young woman who takes her canine pet out for an airing ties a purple bow on his neck and a big bunch of violets on his collar, while he is lead by a purple ribbon.

The confectioner's window has broken out in purple, and the florist's window is in blossom in that same royal shade. The milliner and the furrier reflect purple into the faces that look into their show windows, and in haxy autumn days there was never more purple in the distant landscape than there is right now in the great metropolis.



SKETCHED AT O'NEILL'S.

opening of their new store-an extension to their former premises-in a manner that will make a lasting impression upon those who are fortunate enough to obtain some of the really extraordinary bargains. These bargains are offered at what Messrs. Higgins & Seiter call dedication prices, in SKETCHED AT UNEILL'S.

Skeder of Bedford: Deputy County Clerk C. F. Decker, Charles Brown, the Misses Wous, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown, the Misses Brown, the Misses Wous, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown, the Misses Brown, the Misses Wous, Mr. Shall Sulls Julia Teed, Miss Healey, James Ferris, George Teed, Jr. of Somers, Miss Gussel Travis, of White Plains, and sall women are most interested in "what will be a Skept-Cooper Company as a Skept-Cooper Company and as All women are most interested in "what will be a skept be a skept be skept be skept be skept be skept with a skept be skept be skept be skept be skept be skept with a skept be honor of and as an attraction to their new ware-rooms. Some of the special offerings are simply

SKETCHED AT MATTHEWS & SONS.

wealth of chrysanthemums and a few loops of striped gauze ribbon.

AT STERN BROTHERS', WEST TWENTY-THIRD-ST.

Never before have the etceleras of dress played such an important part in the appearance of a well-dressed woman, and unless our dainty garnitures conform to the latest regulation of Dame Fashlon we may expend both time and money upon

AT THE SIEGEL-COOPER COMPANY'S, SIXTH-

AVE. AND EIGHTEENTH-ST.

When one visits this marvellous conglomeration

of stores that are all under one management, it is hard to decide whether to begin with the groceries,

or the jewelry, or the siiks. Universal providers, indeed, are this great firm, and Paris, bereft of the

Fashion we may expend both time and money upon

the gowns themselves, and the result will be un-

the gowns themselves, and one satisfactory.

Among the new garnitures displayed at Stern Brothers is the charming "set" depleted in this firm's sketch. The epaulettes and deep points are made of heavy Russian lace, while the white satin collar is finished with plenty of lace and a large how of chiffon at the front. The full vest of chiffon extends from this collar to the pointed girdle that is made of pearl glass heads. The girdle is strung or pliable wires, twisted and curled into quite a lace design.

AT A. D. MATTHEWS & SONS', FULTON-ST.,

BROOKLYN.

metropolitan women of fashion, at least none of

our drygoods emporiums are preparing any such

raiment. Even in the City of Churches gorgeous

frocks and stunning hats are constantly sought

after, and one can hardly realize that Lent will

soon fill the cup of pleasure with the ashes of fash-

ionable penitence. At no establishment are the

preparations for spring carried on with more en-

thusiasm than at A. D. Matthews & Sons'. Among

the many dainty confections sharing in the early display is the one depicted in the sketch hearing

AT HIGGINS & SEITER'S, NOS. 50, 52 AND

Messrs. Higgins & Selter are celebrating the

& WEST TWENTY-SECOND-ST.

Sackcloth and ashes cannot ne very popular with

lacy design.